

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A reinforcing frame construction having a roll over protect system (ROPS) and a rear axle casing projecting to the right and left from a tractor vehicle body, the construction comprising:

a pair of right and left loader attaching members for detachably attaching a front loader, the loader attaching members being connected to an intermediate portion of the vehicle body and projecting therefrom to the lateral sides;

a pair of right and left rear supporting members provided on the rear axle casing for supporting the right and left legs of the ROPS, wherein each of said rear supporting members includes a first support element disposed between an upper face of the rear axle casing and a lower end of one of the ROPS legs and a second support element extending along one side of the rear axle casing and one of the ROPS legs, to support the ROPS by the rear axle casing ~~of~~ to the tractor vehicle body; and

a pair of right and left connecting members to which a rear implement is connected, the connecting members being fitted around the rear axle casing and being detachably connected to the rear supporting members:

wherein extension portions of the connecting members extending forwardly therefrom are detachably connected to the loader attaching members.

2. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 1, wherein said rear supporting members and said connecting members are connected to each other at both front and rear regions of said rear axle casing.

3. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the connection between the rear axle casing and the rear supporting members, the connection between the loader attaching members and the connecting members and the connection between the rear supporting members and the connecting members includes a connection reinforcing member for reinforcing said connection.

4. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 1, wherein said connecting members are disposed between the vehicle body and said rear supporting members, each said connecting member being fitted to the rear axle casing from underneath via an upper-open fit-in recess of the connecting member; and

a fit-in recess reinforcing member is provided for connecting front and rear peripheral portions of said fit-in recess fitted to the rear axle casing to an upper portion of the rear axle casing.

5. (Previously Presented) A reinforcing frame construction having a roll over protect system (ROPS) and a rear axle casing projecting to the right and left from a tractor vehicle body, the construction comprising:

a pair of right and left loader attaching members for detachably attaching a front loader, the loader attaching members being connected to an intermediate portion of the vehicle body and projecting therefrom to the lateral sides;

a pair of right and left rear supporting members provided on the rear axle casing for supporting right and left legs of the ROPS, wherein each of said rear supporting members includes a first support element disposed between an upper face of the rear axle casing and a lower end of one of the ROPS legs and a second support element extending along one side of the rear axle casing and one of the ROPS legs, to support the ROPS by the rear axle casing to the tractor vehicle body;

a pair of right and left side frame members having front ends thereof detachably attached to the loader attaching members and having rear ends thereof detachably attached to the rear supporting members; and

a pair of right and left connecting members to which a rear implement is connected, the connecting members being fitted around the rear axle casing;

wherein said connecting members are detachably connected to said side frame members and said rear supporting members.

6. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 5, wherein said right and left rear supporting members, said side frame members and said connecting members are bolt-connected together.

7. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 5, wherein at least one of the connection between the rear axle casing and the rear supporting members, the connection between the loader attaching members and the side frame members and the connection between the rear supporting members and the connecting members includes a connection reinforcing member for reinforcing said connection.

8. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 5, wherein said connecting members are disposed between the vehicle body and said rear supporting members, each said connecting member being fitted to the rear axle casing from underneath via an upper-open fit-in recess of the connecting member; and

a fit-in recess reinforcing member is provided for connecting front and rear peripheral portions of said fit-in recess fitted to the rear axle casing to an upper portion of the rear casing.

9. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 1, wherein each of said second support elements is directly connected to a back face of the rear axle casing and one of the ROPS legs.

10. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 1, wherein said first and second support elements comprise two plates extending perpendicular and fixedly attached to each other.

11. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 5, wherein each of said second support elements is directly connected to a back face of the rear axle casing and one of the ROPS legs.

12. (Previously Presented) The reinforcing frame construction according to claim 5, wherein said first and second support elements comprise two plates extending perpendicular and fixedly attached to each other.